In the Claims:

A complete listing of the claims is provided below, this listing replaces all prior versions of the claims.

Claims 1-24 (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method of impressing a material at a plurality of discrete locations in the manufacture of an article including the material, said method comprising:

- providing a die having a plurality of adjacently arranged fields, each of said fields having at least two distinct projections, each field arranged to engage the material substantially simultaneously, each of said projections having a contact area that is spaced from a contact area of an adjacent projection;

- applying in succession each of said plurality of fields of projections to the surface of the material such as to apply a compressive force thereto;

- a summation of the contact areas of said projections in each of said plurality of fields ~~of projections~~ defining a total contact area over which the compressive force is applied in each of said fields;

- the total contact area of the projections in each field being such that the pressure applied by each individual field on said die is not more than double the pressure applied by any other individual field on said die;

wherein selected ones of said plurality of fields have a plurality of spaced zones, each of said spaced zones having a plurality of projections, and wherein each of said spaced zones are separated from each other by an area without projections.

26. (Original) A method as defined in claim 25, wherein the pressure applied by each individual field on said die exceeds at most by 60% the pressure applied by any other individual field on said die.

27. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim ~~265~~ 26, wherein the projections of different fields are arranged on the die to engage the material at different times.

28. (Original) A method as defined in claim 25, wherein the die is a rotary die.

29. (Original) A method as defined in claim 25, wherein at least one field of said plurality of fields includes a first zone of projections within an imaginary boundary and a second zone of projections external to the imaginary boundary, the imaginary boundary corresponding to a peripheral edge of the article being manufactured.

30. (Original) A method as defined in claim 29, wherein said first zone is continuous with said second zone.

31. (Original) A method as defined in claim 29, wherein said first zone is discontinuous and remote from said second zone.

32. (Original) A method as defined in claim 25, wherein said fields define a sealing pattern for impressing the material of the article to form a peripheral seal extending at least partially around the article.

33. (Original) A method as defined in claim 32, wherein said sealing pattern includes a portion shaped as a main body of a sanitary napkin and a portion shaped as a flap of a sanitary napkin.

34. (Original) A method as defined in claim 28, wherein said rotary die has an axis of rotation, each of said fields of projections extending generally parallel to said axis of rotation.

35. (Original) A method as defined in claim 25, wherein a spacing between immediately adjacent projections in a first of said fields of projections is different from a spacing between immediately adjacent projections in a second of said fields of projections.

36. (Original) A method as defined in claim 25, wherein a first of said fields of projections has a plurality of projections each having a first individual contact area, and a second of said fields of projections has a plurality of projections each having a second individual contact area, said first individual contact area being different from said second individual contact area.

37. (Original) A method as defined in claim 25, wherein the material includes a fluid-pervious layer and a liquid-impervious layer.

38. (Original) A method as defined in claim 37, wherein the impressing forms a seal joining the fluid-pervious layer and the liquid-impervious layer.

39. (New) A method as defined in claim 25, wherein the pressure applied by each individual field on said die exceeds at most by 30% the pressure applied by any other individual field on said die.

40. (New) A method as defined in claim 25, wherein the pressure applied by each field on said die is substantially equal to the pressure applied by each other field.